IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Please cancel Claims 16 through 19, without prejudice.

1. (Amended) An electronically commutated brushless motor comprising:

a motor housing defining a cavity which is configured to at least partially receive a rotor, the motor housing including an integrally formed sidewall having a bulge therein, the bulge defining a hollow area that is offset from the cavity, the hollow area being bounded by the sidewall in a direction radially outwardly of the cavity; and

a capacitor assembly including a printed circuit board and at least one capacitor, said capacitor assembly housed in said bulge and electronically controlling commutation of the electronically commutated brushless motor.

3. (Amended) The motor of Claim 1, wherein said bulge comprises a plurality of channels located along an inside surface of the sidewall.

8. (Amended) A method for constructing an electronically commutated brushless motor, said method comprising:

forming a motor housing with a cavity that is configured to at least partially receive a rotor, the motor housing including an integrally formed sidewall having a bulge therein, the bulge defining a hollow area that is offset from the cavity, the hollow area being bounded by the sidewall in a direction radially outwardly of the cavity;

providing a capacitor assembly; and

slideably inserting the capacitor assembly into the bulge.

10. (Amended) The method of Claim 9, wherein the motor housing includes a pair of capacitor assembly engagement features that are formed on an inside surface of the sidewall proximate the bulge, wherein the capacitor PCB includes a pair of longitudinal edges and wherein the step of slidably inserting the capacitor assembly includes engaging the longitudinal edges of the capacitor PCB to the capacitor assembly engagement features.

12. (Amended) The method of Claim 11, wherein the motor housing includes a pair of capacitor assembly engagement features that are formed on an inside surface of the sidewall proximate the bulge and wherein the step of slidably inserting the capacitor assembly includes engaging the longitudinal edges of the capacitor PCB to the capacitor assembly engagement features.

14. (Amended) The method of Claim 13, wherein the motor housing includes a pair of capacitor assembly engagement features that are formed on an inside surface of the sidewall proximate the bulge, the engagement features having a tapered shape corresponding to the tapered shape of the drafted stiffeners, and wherein the step of slidably inserting the capacitor assembly includes engaging the longitudinal edges of the capacitor PCB to the capacitor assembly engagement features.

15. (Amended) An electronically commutated brushless motor comprising:

a motor housing with a cavity that is configured to at least partially receive a rotor, the motor housing including an integrally formed sidewall and a plurality of capacitor assembly engagement features, the sidewall having a bulge therein, the bulge defining a hollow area that is offset from the cavity, the hollow area being bounded by the sidewall in a direction radially outwardly of the cavity, the capacitor assembly engagement features being integrally formed with the sidewall and being located in a vicinity of the bulge; and

a capacitor assembly slideably inserted in said bulge and engaging the capacitor assembly engagement features.

20. (New) The method of Claim 10, wherein the capacitor assembly engagement features are channels that are integrally formed with the sidewall.

21. (New) The method of Claim 12, wherein the capacitor assembly engagement features are channels that are integrally formed with the sidewall.

22. (New) The method of Claim 14, wherein the capacitor assembly engagement features are channels that are integrally formed with the sidewall.

23. (New) The motor of Claim 15, wherein said capacitor assembly includes a capacitor printed circuit board (PCB) with a pair of laterally spaced-apart longitudinal edges and wherein the capacitor assembly engagement features engage the longitudinal edges of the capacitor PCB.

24. (New) The motor of Claim 15, wherein said capacitor assembly includes a capacitor printed circuit board (PCB) and plurality of stiffeners, each of the stiffeners being coupled to one of the opposite longitudinal edges of the capacitor PCB and wherein the capacitor assembly engagement features include a pair of channels that slidably receive the stiffeners.

25. (New) The motor of Claim 24, wherein the stiffeners include a leading portion and a trailing portion, the leading portion being configured to be inserted into the motor housing before the trailing portion, the leading portion being smaller than the trailing portion so as to provide at least a portion of the stiffeners with a tapered shape.

26. (New) The motor of Claim 25, wherein the channels are tapered in a manner that conforms to the tapered shape of the stiffeners.

27. (New) An electronically commutated brushless motor comprising:

a motor housing;

a bulge formed in a sidewall of said motor housing; and

a capacitor assembly including a printed circuit board and at least one capacitor, said capacitor assembly housed entirely in said bulge.

28. (New) The electronically commutated brushless motor of Claim 27, wherein the capacitor assembly is slidably received into the bulge.

29. (New) The electronically commutated brushless motor of Claim 28, wherein a pair channels are formed into the sidewall adjacent the bulge.

30. (New) The electronically commutated brushless motor of Claim 29, wherein the capacitor assembly includes a capacitor printed circuit board, and wherein the channels are configured to engage the opposite lateral sides of the capacitor printed circuit board.

31. (New) The electronically commutated brushless motor of Claim 30, wherein the capacitor assembly includes a pair of stiffeners for supporting the capacitor printed circuit board and wherein the stiffeners are also received into the channels.

32. (New) The electronically commutated brushless motor of Claim 31, wherein at least a portion of each stiffener has a tapered shape.

33. (New) The electronically commutated brushless motor of Claim 32, wherein at least a portion of each channel is tapered in a manner that corresponds to the tapered shape of the stiffeners.

34. (New) The electronically commutated brushless motor of Claim 29, wherein the capacitor assembly includes a pair of stiffeners for supporting the capacitor printed circuit board and wherein the stiffeners are received into the channels.

35. (New) The electronically commutated brushless motor of Claim 34, wherein at least a portion of each stiffener has a tapered shape.

36. (New) The electronically commutated brushless motor of Claim 35, wherein at least a portion of each channel is tapered in a manner that corresponds to the tapered shape of the stiffeners.